



Committee Members

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Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety

September 30, 2008

Greetings:

On behalf of the Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety, I would like to provide a brief synopsis of some of our activities. While the enclosed brochure covers the 2006-2007 time period, below is a short summary on some of the activities of the Committee during this time frame.

Our Committee met thirteen times during 2006 and 2007. Most of our meetings were held in Olympia, but we also convened in Bellingham, Bellevue, Spokane, and Vancouver, Washington, as well as Portland, Oregon (to tour the One-Call Center handling Washington State). Our meeting schedules and minutes are posted at: www.utc.wa.gov/pipeline/ccops.

We have been actively engaged in a large number of issues important to furthering pipeline safety, especially in Washington State. Some of the critical items:

- 1) Closely followed developing proposed Federal pipeline safety regulation on the Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) that will cover the approximately 1.9 million miles of gas distribution pipelines in the U.S. (approximately 21,000 miles, excluding service lines, are in Washington State). Distribution pipelines are responsible for the greatest number of annual pipeline deaths in this country.
- 2) Reviewed and agreed with parties approving Olympic Pipeline's request to return their pipeline system to full pressure.
- 3) Observed an oil spill drill exercise held in Spokane following various Oil Spill Contingency Plan presentations from the Department of Ecology.

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- 4) Examined the pipeline safety fees and assessment process associated with Federal pipeline funding for Washington State.
- 5) Issued an advisory letter to FERC concerning a proposed new natural gas transmission pipeline whose routing is in highly challenging terrain within Washington State. This pipeline is part of a FERC Draft EIS concerning the Bradwood Landing LNG facility.

It is anticipated that the above DIMP rulemaking will require excess flow valves on certain new/replacement service line installations and compel improvements in state third party damage enforcement programs related to pipelines. Both of these issues are identified in the Federal PIPES Act of 2006 and are very important to many parties in this State.

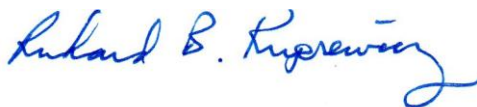
The Committee continues to work with the UTC's pipeline safety program on improving the public right-to-know aspects concerning pipelines and we hope to see continued important advancements in this area.

We accept public comment at all of our meetings and while in Spokane, we engaged in an exchange with the city's fire marshal, city attorney, local citizens, and local pipeline operators about pipeline concerns. One specific issue of concern discussed by the Committee was related to the important Washington State sole-source aquifer in Spokane crossed by the Conoco liquid pipeline.

I invite you to review the enclosed brochure as it identifies many other important pipeline issues the Committee has been involved with during this time period. Please feel free to visit our website, and contact me if you have any questions or suggestions for subjects related to pipeline safety that our Committee has or should address.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard B. Kuprewicz, Chairman
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